Idiom of the Month: OFF THE BEATEN TRACK
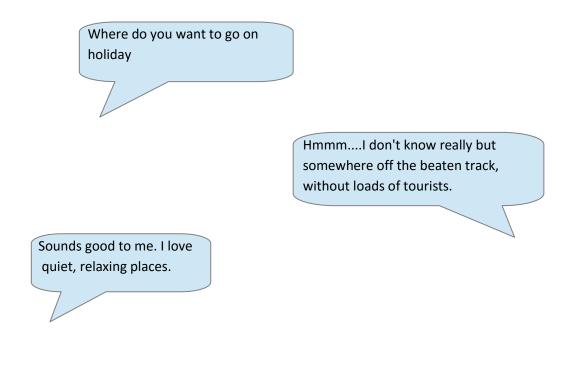
By *Sarah Gudgeon*

1. **Write five sentences you could put in a holiday brochure to describe a hotel.**
    For example:

    This luxury hotel is a five minute walk from the busy town centre.

    a.

    b.

    c.

    d.

    e.

2a. Read

> Where do you want to go on holiday

> Hmmm....I don't know really but somewhere off the beaten track, without loads of tourists.

> Sounds good to me. I love quiet, relaxing places.

2b. Complete

The hotel we went to last year was fantastic; it was totally _____.

In fact, it isn't in any guide books and so we were the only foreign tourists.

3. Read these travel idioms and match each one to the correct meaning

    a. Jenny and Lisa are in the same boat; they have both failed their maths exam and are feeling completely miserable about it.

    b. John wanted to stay for another coffee but it was time to hit the road.

    c. Leanne was furious because her friend Janine copied her English essay, so she went to see her and told her to take a hike.

    d. This cup of tea is just the ticket after such a long bus ride. I feel so much better now

    e. Teenagers often drive their parents up the wall because of their loud music and untidy bedrooms

    1. to go away

    2. are in the same situation

    3. make their parents crazy

    4. to leave

    5. is the perfect thing

4. Answer these questions

    a. What do your parents do that drives you up the wall?

    _____

    b. Have you ever told anyone to take a hike? If yes, why?

    _____

5. Talk to a partner

What is your idea of the perfect holiday? Do you like to go somewhere off the beaten track and

laze by the pool or do you prefer an action-packed holiday where you can hit the road every

morning after breakfast in search of adventure?

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1.

Print off some online hotel reviews to give students some ideas about the kind of text used in holiday brochures

2b.

The hotel we went to last year was fantastic; it was totally *off the beaten track*. In fact, it isn't in any guide books and so we were the only foreign tourists.

3.

    a. 2

    b. 4

    c. 1

    d. 5

    e. 3

4.

Set up a class discussion on these topics before asking students to write down their answers

5.

Ask some of the pairs to feedback to the class on their partner's idea of an ideal holiday.